UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/708,770	11/07/2000	James E. Obert	10001609-1	2515

22879 7590 12/03/2003

HEWLETT PACKARD COMPANY
P O BOX 272400, 3404 E. HARMONY ROAD
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION
FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER	
POON, KING Y	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2624	7

DATE MAILED: 12/03/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/708,770	OBERT ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	King Y. Poon	2624	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *30 September 2003*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-6,9,10,12,13,15-18 and 20* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-6,9,10,12,13 and 15-28* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *13* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *07 November 2000* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claim 13 is objected to because of the following informalities: Claim 13 is originally depends on claim 12. Claim 12 in the claim 13 (page 6) is being misspelled as claim 13. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
> (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The change made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

2. Claims 1-5, 9, 10, 12, 15-17, 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hanson (US 6,148,346).

Regarding claims 1: Hanson teaches a system, (fig. 1) comprising: a workstation (computer 25, 26, and 23, fig.1 of company A, form a workstation) having one or more computers; one or more printing devices (27, 31, figure 1, column 4, lines 18-19) connected to at least one computer (PC 23, fig. 1) in the workstation; a remote (company A and B are remotely connected to each other through Internet 22, column 4, lines 15-20, fig. 1) diagnostic center (host computer system with an independent server connected by a LAN, column 4, lines 40-45, e.g., PC 35 and server 40, located at company B, fig. 1) located outside the workstation (from fig. 1, the system is divided into two workstations, company A and company B, each workstation is connected by Internet 22, Host computer and server running operating system from A can access any printing devices/peripherals located in B and vice versa, column 2, lines 8-15, column 4, lines 10-20) configured to communicate (column 4, line 10-15, host computer is operating with an operating system to communicate with the printing devices/peripherals connected anywhere in the network show in fig. 1, column 4, lines 20-26) with the one or more printing devices and execute a printing device management application (printer maintenance menu of GUI object 52, column 7, lines 45-50, column 5, lines 12-14, fig. 8J) to obtain diagnostic data from the one or more printing devices after receiving explicit authorization to do so from a workstation (the computer that is being used for system administrator, column 6, lines 15-30) and wherein the diagnostic data (column 7, lines 45-50) is

simultaneously viewable (current, column 7, line 47, real-time, column 8, line 52) at the remote diagnostics center (column 8, lines 44-55) and at the workstation (column 7,lines 45-50) authorizing the remote diagnostics center to obtain the diagnostic data.

Regarding claim 2: Hanson teaches wherein at least one of the one or more printing devices (printer 27, fig. 1) is directly connected to a workstation computer (PC 23, fig. 1).

Regarding claim 3: Hanson teaches wherein at least one of the one or more printing devices (printer 29, fig. 1, column 4, line 19) is connected to the workstation through a local network. (Intranet, column 4, line 18)

Regarding claim 4. Hanson teaches wherein: the system comprises at least two printing devices; (e.g., printer 27 and printer 29, fig. 1) a first printing device (printer 27, fig. 1) is directly connected to a workstation computer (PC 23, fig. 1); and a second printing device (printer 29, fig. 1, column 4, line 19) is connected to the workstation through a local network. (Intranet, column 4, line 18)

Regarding claim 5: Hanson teaches wherein the remote diagnostic center (host computer system with an independent server connected by a LAN, column 4, lines 40-45, e.g., PC 35 and server 40, located at company B, fig. 1) further comprises a printer information management system (dynamic device driver system, column 4, lines 10-15, column 2, lines 8-9) that communicates (all communication between the host computer in company B and the printers in A has to communicate through a firewall/proxy server, fig.1, column 6, lines 55-62)

with the workstation (proxy server, column 6, lines 55-67; proxy server of company A, is a computer which is part of the workstation of company A) through the Internet (column 6, line 57, fig. 1).

Regarding claim 9: Claims 9 is a method step of the system discussed in claim 1, please see claim 1.

Regarding claim 10: Hanson teaches wherein the workstation (PC 23, fig. 1) includes at least two printing devices, (e.g., 27, 31, fig. 1) and at least one printing device is connected to the workstation through a local network (local net, fig. 1)

Regarding claim 12: Hanson teaches wherein the communicating further comprises communicating with the workstation through the Internet (22, fig. 1).

Regarding claim 15: Hanson teaches wherein the printing devices further comprise printers. (column 3, lines 20-25)

Regarding claim 16: Hanson teaches a method, comprising: initiating (execution, column 4, line 64) a printer information management system (dynamic device driver system, column 4, lines 10-15, column 4, lines 60-65, column 2, lines 8-9) from a computer (e.g., PC 23, fig. 1, column 4, lines 10-20) of a workstation (computer 25, 28, and 23 forms a workstation, fig. 1) having one or more computers and one or more printers (printer 27, 29-31, fig. 1) connected (directly or by network, column 4, lines 15-20) to the workstation computers, (PC 23, server 25, fig. 1) the printer information management system (dynamic device driver system, column 4, lines 10-15, column 4, lines 60-65, column 2, lines 8-9) obtaining diagnostic data (column 7, lines 41-50) from the one or more printers;

and granting explicit permission (the computer that is being used for system administrator, column 6, lines 15-30) to a remote user (a host that is remote from administrator, within the workstation containing part of the dynamic device driver, column 4, lines 39-45) to view (column 8, lines 50-55) and control the printer information management system (e.g., the device driver 34, column 4, line 46; controlling device driver 34 is the same as controlling the printer information management system because device driver 34 is part of the printer information management system) to access the diagnostic data (dynamic device driver is used to access diagnostic data from the printers, column 4, lines 10-20, column 7, lines 40-50) from the one or more printers (e.g., printer 30, 31, fig. 1); and viewing the diagnostic data (column 7, lines 45-50) at the workstation computer (column 7,lines 45-50) at the same time (current, column 7, line 47, real-time, column 8, line 52) that the diagnostics data is being view by the remote user.

Regarding claim 17: Hanson teaches wherein the granting permission to a remote user further comprises granted permission to a remote user to access the diagnostic data through an Internet connection (Internet, column 6, lines 55-62).

Regarding claim 20: Hanson teaches wherein the printer information management system (dynamic device driver system, column 4, lines 10-15, column 4, lines 60-65, column 2, lines 8-9) is network-based, (located everywhere in the network, column 4, lines 10-20) and the initiating further comprises launching the printer information management system through a network connection (e.g., PC 23, column 4, lines 10-20).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC 103

3. Claims 6, 13 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hanson as applied to claims 1, 5, 12, 16, 17 above, and further in view of Wood et al. (US 6,453,127).

Regarding claim 6: Hanson teaches wherein the printer information management system is stored on a server (the driver portion 34 belongs to the printer information management system and is stored in a server, column 4, lines 36-42).

Hanson does not teach wherein the printer information management system is stored on an Internet website.

Wood, in the same area of transmitting Java applet (see column 5, lines 5-15, Wood et al and column 4, lines 60-65, Hanson) to be executed by a user□s computer (computer 30, fig. 1) of displaying status/diagnostic data in the user□s computer (column 5, lines 25-35), teaches to store the Java applet on an Internet (column 2, line 67) website located in a server. (The series of files that include user interface display screen pages in applets , located in a web server, is a website, for establishing a program in the user s computer, column 5, lines 5-15)

Since the printer information management system (driver portion 34 is part of the dynamic device driver system/printer information management system) of Hanson, is stored in a server within the Internet, (column 4, lines 39-42), contains Java applet programs (column 4, lines 57-67, column 5, lines 12-23) to be executed by the host computer to display printer diagnostic data (column 7, lines

42-50), it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Hanson s system to include: wherein the printer information management system/driver portion 34 is stored on an Internet website.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Hanson s system by the teaching of Wood et al. because of the following reasons: (a) most computers connected on Internet communicate with, and access data from websites located in server computer(s); storing the dynamic device driver system in a website would allow the dynamic device driver system of Hanson to be widely used in the Internet system by all users; and (b) it would have allowed a service person to gain access of the diagnostic data of a printer of Hanson from anywhere in the world as long as he has a computer connected to Internet.

Regarding claim 13: Hanson teaches wherein the printer information management system/diagnostic software (dynamic device driver system, column 4, lines 10-20, column 2, lines 7-8) is accessible by two or more concurrent users. (Column 4, lines 10-15, teaches the dynamic device driver system component are located at all devices of fig. 1. Since the devices of fig. 1, e.g., PC 23, and PC 35, are users of the system and dynamic driver system components are part of the dynamic device driver system, the dynamic device driver system is accessible by two or more concurrent users)

Hanson does not teach wherein the printer information management system is stored on an Internet website.

Wood, in the same area of transmitting Java applet (see column 5, lines 5-15, Wood et al and column 4, lines 60-65, Hanson) to be executed by a user s computer (computer 30, fig. 1) of displaying status/diagnostic data in the user s computer (column 5, lines 25-35), teaches to store the Java applet on an Internet (column 2, line 67) website located in a server. (The series of files that include user interface display screen pages in applets , located in a web server, is a website, for establishing a program in the user s computer, column 5, lines 5-15)

Since the printer information management system (driver portion 34 is part of the dynamic device driver system/printer information management system) of Hanson, is stored in a server within the Internet, (column 4, lines 39-42), contains Java applet programs (column 4, lines 57-67, column 5, lines 12-23) to be executed by the host computer to display printer diagnostic data (column 7, lines 42-50), it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Hanson s system to include: wherein the printer information management system/driver portion 34 is stored on an Internet website.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Hanson s system by the teaching of Wood et al. because of the following reasons: (a) most computers connected on Internet communicate with, and access data from websites located in server computer(s); storing the dynamic device driver system in a website would allow the dynamic device driver system of Hanson to be widely used in the Internet system by all users; and (b) it would have allowed a service person to gain

access of the diagnostic data of a printer of Hanson from anywhere in the world as long as he has a computer connected to Internet.

Regarding claim 18: Hanson teaches wherein at least a portion of the printer information management system is stored on a server (the driver portion 34 is part of the printer information management system and is stored in a server, column 4, lines 36-42).

Hanson does not teach wherein at least a portion of the printer information management system is stored on an Internet website and is concurrently accessible by two or more users.

Wood, in the same area of transmitting Java applet (see column 5, lines 5-15, Wood et al and column 4, lines 60-65, Hanson) to be executed by a user s computer of displaying status/diagnostic data in the user s computer (column 5, lines 25-35), teaches to store the Java applet on an Internet (column 2, line 67) website located in a server, (the series of files that include user interface display screen pages in applets , located in a web server, is a website, for establishing a program in the user s computer, column 5, lines 5-15), and is concurrently accessible by two or more users (a socket is provided for each user connected to the web server for clear communication with the respective user, column 5, lines 45-50; e.g., communicating Java applet, column 5, lines 5-25. In other words, more than one user could concurrently connect to the web server for communication by connecting through their own socket. Therefore, the Java applet, containing diagnostic data, is concurrently accessible by more than one user).

Since the printer information management system (driver portion 34 is part of the dynamic device driver system/printer information management system) of Hanson, is stored in a server within the Internet, (column 4, lines 39-42), contains Java applet programs (column 4, lines 57-67, column 5, lines 12-23) to be executed by the host computer to display printer diagnostic data (column 7, lines 42-50), it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Hanson s system to include: wherein at least a portion of the printer information management system/driver portion 34 is stored on an Internet website and is concurrently accessible by two or more users.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Hanson s system by the teaching of Wood et al. because of the following reasons: (a) most computers connected on Internet communicate with, and access data from websites located in server computer(s); storing the dynamic device driver system in a website would allow the dynamic device driver system of Hanson to be widely used in the Internet system by all users; (b) it would have allowed a service person to gain access of the diagnostic data of a printer of Hanson from anywhere in the world as long as he has a computer connected to Internet; (c) concurrently accessible by users would have allowed the system to function properly; for example, when one user is using the system for a day, all the other users cannot use the system for that day without concurrently accessible by the users.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed on 9/30/2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

With respect to applicant's argument that Hanson does not teach receiving explicit authorization from a workstation computer before obtaining diagnostic data from a printer and the diagnostic data being simultaneously viewable from a remote location and at a workstation; has been considered.

In reply: Hanson teaches to obtain diagnostic data from the one or more printing devices (column 8, lines 44-65) after receiving explicit authorization to do so from a workstation (the computer that is being used for system administrator, column 6, lines 15-30, for controlling access for a printer) and wherein the diagnostic data (column 7, lines 45-50) is simultaneously viewable (current, column 7, line 47, real-time, column 8, line 52) at the remote diagnostics center (column 8, lines 44-55) and at the workstation (column 7,lines 45-50) authorizing the remote diagnostics center to obtain the diagnostic data.

Action is Final, Necessitated by Amendment

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is

filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to King Y. Poon whose telephone number is (703) 305-0892

December 2, 2003

GABRIEL GARCIA
PRIMARY EXAMINER